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lie at the very heart of the gospel of the kingdom of God, as preached by Jesus Christ. Never was a right voice from the pulpit on this theme more imperative than now. The Christian church, in spite of its weakness and faithlessness in certain directions, holds a commanding position in the world. While men are groping about in spiritual and moral uncertainty, perplexed and often almost in despair over the titanic confusions of the world, and ready to disbelieve in any divine order in human affairs, from every sacred desk in Christendom ought to sound out the condemnation of the prevailing materialism and brutality, and the strength, everlasting beauty and glory of the divine life of love and unselfish goodness. Only this faithfulness to its high mission can save the church from further decline, and civilization from going to wreck. A single Christmas time of absolute faithfulness to Jesus Christ on the part of all the churches of Christendom, on the subject of the principles unfolded in the Sermon on the Mount—who knows but that this one vast, concentrated effort, if sincerely made, would turn back the tide of materialism and violence and end war forever?

Brevities.

. . . According to a carefully prepared chart, used during the Peace Exhibit at Paris, there were in the decade from 1820 to 1830 *four* cases of international arbitration, from 1830 to 1840 *eight* cases, from 1840 to 1850 *six* cases, from 1850 to 1860 *fifteen* cases, from 1860 to 1870 *twenty-two* cases, from 1870 to 1880 *twenty-four* cases, from 1880 to 1890 *forty-two* cases, and from 1890 to 1899 *sixty-three* cases. These are most significant figures.

. . . A notable discussion on "War from a Christian Point of View" took place on November 15, at the Episcopal Church Congress at Providence, R. I. Captain A. T. Mahan, Bishop Hall of Vermont and others pleaded for war as Christian. Rev. L. H. Schwab, Mr. E. H. Crosby and others presented strong arguments showing that war is totally antichristian. We give in this issue Mr. Crosby's address in full, and hope to give Dr. Schwab's in our next.

. . . *The Nation* says, with little exaggeration, that "the burning at the stake of a negro murderer in Colorado was attended by circumstances of deliberate ferocity which make it the most fiendish thing of its kind ever known in a northern state. . . . The North has now surpassed the bloody instructions of the South." What wonder when "deliberate ferocity" is at the present time a fad in the nation!

. . . It is a curious commentary on the change which has come over the spirit of our country, the moral confusion into which we have fallen, that Sixto Lopez, an educated gentleman, writing enviable English, overwhelming an American University president in argument, modest, self-restrained, refusing to talk politics, in this country purely to tell our people the truth about the Philippines in the interests of liberty, should be watched

by government detectives and threatened to be sent out of the country.

. . . A number of women at Buenos Ayres, Argentina, have formed a section of the Women's Universal Peace Alliance. An important address on war was recently delivered at the first public meeting of this group, by Mr. Belisario Roldan, Jr., who took the ground that those nations which have cultivated war "have gone down with the fatal precision of a falling star."

. . . The great Krupp works at Essen, Germany, turn out every variety of iron and steel works, from railroad trains to machine tools. But the manufacture of war materials, though only a small part of the output, so dominates the public mind that few people know that anything else is manufactured there.

. . . The celebrated Hyacinthe Loyson has gone on a peace mission to Constantinople and Jerusalem, to do what he can to bring about better relations between the Mohammedans and the peoples of western Europe. Madam Loyson goes with him to promote the extension of the "Alliance of Oriental and Occidental Women," of which she is the founder, and of which Princess Nazli, of the family of the Khedive of Egypt, is the honorary president.

. . . Under the title of "Voices of Peace," H. Lavinia Bailey, secretary of the Peace Association of Friends in America, has compiled a useful little book of selections of peace articles and poems for use in public and parlor meetings. The collection contains about forty selections, and the price is twenty-five cents. It may be procured at the office of the Association, Richmond, Ind., or of Mrs. H. J. Bailey, Winthrop Center, Me.

. . . In a recent address at Philadelphia, Wu Ting Fang, Chinese Minister at Washington, said that, with exceptions, the missionaries have done much good in China and have not been the cause of the trouble. The ill-feeling, he said, is due to the general attitude of foreigners who treat the customs, traditions and institutions of the country with contempt.

. . . Secretary Root, now on a visit to Cuba, says that he is agreeably surprised to find the Cubans an enlightened people, instead of only partially civilized, as from newspaper reports he had been led to imagine. He "expects soon to see a free, self-governing republic in Cuba."

. . . During the past five years England has supplied the Chinese government with 190 field and position guns, with over 60,000 rounds of ammunition; and 297 machine guns, with 4,250,000 rounds of ammunition. Germany has furnished possibly even more. There is no greater stupidity than to follow such a course of greed as arouses intense hatred, and at the same time out of the same spirit of greed to be arming that hatred with the deadliest weapons.

. . . Prof. Goldwin Smith of Canada, in a recent pamphlet, warns the people of the United States against the dangers of imperialism, and strongly counsels us to have nothing to do with an alliance with Great Britain, as proposed by the English Tories and plutocrats.

. . . The Free Presbyterian Church and the United Presbyterian Church of Scotland have now, after long

discussion and effort, become one body, the United Free Church. That is Christian and brotherly.

. . . In a recent article in the *Nuova Antologia*, Ex-Premier Crispi of Italy explains that the Triple Alliance of Germany, Austria and Italy was not primarily, on the Italian side, his work, but that of Mancini and de Robilant.

. . . General MacArthur's report from the Philippines shows that in the four months ending September 1, this year, 268 Americans were killed, 750 wounded and 55 captured, while the Filipino losses were 3,227 killed, 694 wounded and 2,684 captured.

. . . At the great Anglo-French labor demonstration in Paris on the 28th of October, organized by the labor party in France, Mr. W. Pickles, president this year of the English Trades' Union Congress, presided, and read an address issued by British labor leaders, urging workers everywhere to impress on their governments respect for human life and the establishment of universal peace. The address also condemned that large section of the press, owned and controlled by unprincipled capitalists, which stirs up ill-feeling between the peoples of different countries.

. . . The Boston *Beacon* of November 10, commenting, in an excellent editorial, on the burdens and perils of European militarism, says that "there is a lesson in these gloomy prospects which some of our jingo statesmen may study with profit to themselves and advantage to the American people."

. . . Secretary Hay, on behalf of the United States, has formally accepted the invitation of the Mexican government to participate in the Pan-American Conference to be held in the city of Mexico early next year.

. . . Because of the increased activity of the Boers, Lord Roberts has intimated that it is impossible to withdraw more British troops from South Africa.

. . . "What is immoral for men to do, when acting singly, is also immoral for them to do when acting collectively as a nation."—*The Morning Star*.

. . . "Neither the obtaining nor the retaining of any trade is an object for which we may justly shed each other's blood."—*Benjamin Franklin*.

. . . The Hispano-American Congress, called for the purpose of promoting closer commercial and intellectual relations between the Spanish-speaking peoples of South America and the mother-country, Spain, opened its sessions at Madrid on November 9. Spain, Portugal, and all the South American republics except Bolivia, sent delegates.

. . . "For the first time within a century," says Mr. A. H. Bright in a letter to the London *Times*, "the peace party have maintained their ground at a general election held during, or shortly after, a serious war." The government majority of 152 in the House of Commons has been reduced to 132.

. . . The French budget for the coming year calls for an increase of about twelve millions of dollars in the appropriation for the army and the navy, to say nothing of the enormous cost of the expedition to China.

. . . Dr. Hykes, agent of the American Bible Society in China writes that "a great and terrible famine is imminent not only in Chili, but in Shansi and Honan as well, and it is estimated that at least three million people must die of starvation in the north." War and famine are not "heavenly twins."

. . . "A tenth part of that treasure which is annually expended by the different states of Christendom in unchristian warfare would supply forever the expense of establishments in every country, in which the morals of thousands would be amended, their idleness changed into industry, their profligacy into sobriety, their lives preserved for the public good, and the peace of society maintained."—*Richard Watson, bishop of Landaff, in 1804.*

. . . The *Congregationalist* defines imperialism as "the policy of conquering other nations for the sake of the spoils," and militarism as "the policy of maintaining a large standing army for the success of imperialism."

. . . "To the Christian and to the Christian consciousness, war is the child of hell."—*Rev. J. Campbell Morgan.*

. . . The English war office is experimenting with a new magazine rifle, which fires thirty shots in a minute, feeds itself with cartridges automatically, is one and one-quarter pounds lighter than the Lee-Metford, and costs one-third less to manufacture. Some of the inventors of these accursed instruments ought to get out an improvement that would bury the men shot to death, heal all the wounds made, care for all the widows and orphans, and pay all the taxes occasioned. It might not be amiss to have a praying attachment to the magazine.

From Peace to War.

BY KATRINA TRASK.

I tell the tale of the dauntless Virgin,
The unconquered West that rose like a star
Out of the night in the dawn of the morning.
Brave she came from the womb of her Mother;
Brave she sucked of her Saxon breasts;
Brave she rose when her days were accomplished,
Counting not struggle, nor throes, nor anguish,
Weaning herself from her mighty Mother;
Crowning herself with her laurel crown;
Learning her lessons from consecrate spirits,
Lessons of life, and the creed of the Christ.

Then she came forth in her virginal beauty,
Dowered with plenty and girdled with peace,
Singing a song that thrilled through the nations
Pausing to hear her in wondering amaze.

"Behold her!" they said. "We have fought since our birth-cry!

We have fought and fought since time began;
We have fought and fought, and what was the issue?
Fight followed fight in dark sequence of sorrow,
War brought forth war in endless refrain.
Has she found the secret, this Western Virgin,
The secret of reaching the root, not the branch?
Will a new day arise in the wake of her shining?
Shall we learn through her a mightier way?"